

NDHSAA Code of Conduct

Purpose: To elevate standards of Good Sportsmanship and to encourage the growth of responsible citizenship among the students, member schools and their personnel.

Fundamentals of Good Sportsmanship

1. Know, appreciate and understand the rules of the contest.
2. Show respect for the officials. Good Sportsmanship implies the willingness to accept and abide by the decisions of the officials.
3. Show respect for the opponent at all times. Good Sportsmanship is the Golden Rule in action.
4. Recognize and appreciate the skill of performance regardless of team affiliation.
5. Maintain self control at all times. Good Sportsmanship is a responsibility of all who are involved in the game.
6. Show a positive attitude in cheering, refraining from intimidation or negative cheering. Good Sportsmanship is cheering your own team "on to victory".

COACHES SHALL:

1. Follow the rules of the sport during the progress of the contest.
2. Accept the decision of officials without showing inappropriate emotions.
3. Exhibit encouragement to players going in and coming out of a game/meet.
4. Avoid public display of criticism in front of participants or spectators.

TEAMS SHALL:

1. Display qualities of Good Sportsmanship at all times.
2. Display respect for opponents at all times, including injured players. **EXAMPLE:** Assisting an opponent who has fallen as opposed to stepping over him/her.
3. Avoid unsportsmanlike gestures or language. **EXAMPLE:** Taunting an opponent after a missed shot, etc.
4. Respect the judgment of game officials. **EXAMPLE:** Protesting a call verbally and/or demonstratively.
5. Concentrate on being involved in the contest with as little regard for the spectators as possible. **EXAMPLE:** Joining in with spectators in unsportsmanlike conduct.
6. Accept victory and/or defeat with pride and compassion.

- EXAMPLE:** Shaking hands with the opponents after the contest in a sportsmanlike manner.
7. Exhibit proper etiquette in pre-game ceremonies. **EXAMPLE:** Display proper behavior during the national anthem, the introduction of players, etc.
 8. Display ethical behavior throughout the contest. **EXAMPLE:** No behavior which would include possible injurious actions such as the swinging of elbows, tripping, pushing back after being bumped, etc.

FANS SHALL:

1. Refrain from throwing any object onto the playing floor or in the stands.
2. Refrain from behavior deemed dangerous or which interferes with the rights of others to watch the game.
3. Refrain from possessing, consuming or being under the influence of chemicals.
4. Refrain from use of obscene, profane or abusive language or gestures, signs, posters or banners which show disrespect for opponent's team, officials, cheerleaders, band or other performing groups.
5. Refrain from the use of artificial noisemakers.
6. Refrain from entry onto the playing surface.

THESE ARE ACTS OF MISCONDUCT THAT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC REMOVAL WITHOUT REFUND OF ADMISSION!

CROWD CONTROL

1. Officials should be encouraged to call penalties on crowd or to cancel or postpone games because of improper crowd behavior.
2. The host school administration is responsible for crowd control and may call the game because of fan misconduct and postpone the conclusion of a game until a later time with no spectators present.
3. Student spectators guilty of misconduct should be removed from the arena and charged with disorderly conduct and/or may be barred from attending future contests.
4. All school regulations should be in effect at all contests, even though the contest might not be held in a school owned facility.